1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Kathleen P. March, Esq., (CA SBN 80366) THE BANKRUPTCY LAW FIRM, PC 10524 W. Pico Blvd, Suite 212, LA, CA 90064 Phone: 310-559-9224; Fax: 310-559-9133 Email: kmarch@BKYLAWFIRM.com Counsel of Record for Greyson Law Center PC on this Motion, and defending adversary proc. UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA—SANTA ANA DIV.		
9	In re	Bankruptcy Case No. 8:23-bk-10571-SC	
10	THE LITIGATION	Chapter 11	
11	PRACTICE	NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION OF	
12	GROUP, P.C.,	GREYSON LAW CENTER PC, FOR AN ORDER	
13	Debtor.	GRANTING ALLOWANCE AND PAYMENT	
14		OF ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIM, PURSUANT	
15		TO 11 U.S.C. §503(b)(1)(A); DECLARATIONS	
16		OF HAN TRINH, KATHLEEN P. MARCH,	
17		ESQ. AND DOUGLAS PLAZAK, ESQ., EACH	
18		WITH EXHIBITS	
19			
20		Hearing on this Motion (and on other parties'	
21		Motions) for allowance and payment of	
22		administrative claim are all set for:	
23		Date: January 19, 2024 Time: 11:00 a.m.	
24		Place: Courtroom of Bankruptcy Judge Scott	
		Clarkson, by Zoom or in person at: 411 West Fourth Street, Courtroom 5C	
25		Santa Ana, CA 92701-4593	
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1	IV.	The Negligent (And Worse) Conduct of Trustee's Attorney Celentino, And
2		Celentino's Field Agents, Against Greyson, Entitles Greyson to the
3		Administrative Claim Greyson Here Moves For
4		
5	V.	Greyson is Owed an Administrative Claim of \$300,633, for the 22 of 48
6		Greyson Clients Greyson Lost, Due to Negligence of Celentino/His Field
7		Agents, of Seizing/Converting 48 Greyson Client Files (which were Greyson
8		Property), and Then Delaying, for a Month, Returning Greyson's Client Files
9		to Greyson17
10		
11	VI.	Post-petition (after LPG filed Bankruptcy on 3/20/23), Phoenix Law Group—
12		Which Celentino Took Over and Operates, as Being an "Alter Ego" of LPG
13		Contracted with Greyson, to Pay Greyson \$2,000 per Lawsuit, to Have Greyson
14		Lawyers Defend Phoenix Clients, for Phoenix; the \$2,000 per Case Fees Total
15		\$5,134,000, which Phoenix Owes to Greyson, but Which Celentino has
16		Wrongfully Refused to Pay to Greyson
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19	VII.	Conclusion
20	D 1	
21		arations of Han Trinh, Douglas Plazak, Esq, and Kathleen P. March, Esq., each
22	with a	attached exhibits, are being filed as attachments hereto.
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1	TABLE OF AUTHORITIES
2	Cases
3	In re 800Ideas.com, Inc.,
4	496 B.R. 165 (9th Cir. BAP 2013)7
5	In re Florence Hospital at Anthem, LLC,
6	4:13-bk-03201-BMW, 2018 WL 1989470 (Bankr. D. Ariz. 4/26/18)2-3
7	In re Kadjevich,
8	220 F.3d 1016 (9th Cir. 2000)2-4
9	In re Megafoods Stores, Inc,
10	163 F.3d 1063 (9th Cir. 1998)4-6
11	In re Metro Fulfillment, Inc.,
12	294 B.R. 306 (9th Cir. BAP 2003)7
13	In re Ybarra,
14	424 F.3d 1018 (9th Cir. 2005)
15	Reading Co. v. Brown,
16	391 U.S. 471, 88 S.Ct. 1759 (1968)1-2, 4, 6, 11, 16, 24
17	
18	Statutes
19	11 USC §102(3)6
20	11 USC §503(b)(1)(A)1-2, 4-6, 15, 23-25
2122	28 USC §959(b)3
23	
24	
25	
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TO CHAPTER 11 TRUSTEE RICHARD MARSHACK, AND TO THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE, AND TO ALL OTHER PARTIES IN INTEREST, AND TO COUNSEL OF RECORD FOR ALL OF THESE PARTIES:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on January 19, 2024 at 11:00 a.m., in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, Santa Ana Division, either in person at 411 West Fourth Street, Courtroom 5C, Santa Ana, CA 92701-4593 or by Zoom, to be determined by the Court, *Greyson Law Center PC* ("Greyson") will and does move for an Order granting allowance and payment of Greyson's herein Motion for allowance and payment of Greyson's administrative claim, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §503(b)(1)(A).

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Motion is based on this

Notice, the attached Memorandum of Points & Authorities, the attached Declaration

of Han Trinh, with attached exhibits, the attached Declaration of Kathleen P. March,

Esq., with attached exhibits, and the attached Declaration of Douglas Plazak, Esq.,

with attached exhibits; plus on any additional matter of which the Court may take

judicial notice, including pleadings and documents filed in this case.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, pursuant to Local Bankruptcy
Rule 9013-1(f), that no later than fourteen (14) days before the above stated hearing
date set forth above, any Response/Opposition to the Motion must be written and

1	must be filed in Bankruptcy Court, CD CA, at 411 W. Fourth Street, Santa Ana,			
2	California, 92701, and must be served upon counsel for Han Trinh as listed on the			
3 4	upper-left hand of the first page of this Notice and Motion. A copy of			
5	Response/Opposition must be delivered to chambers of the Hon. Scott Clarkson,			
6	United States Bankruptcy Court, 411 W. Fourth Street, Suite 5130, Santa Ana,			
7 8	California, 92701-4593, if over 25 pages long.			
9	PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the failure to respond in writing			
10	by the above stated deadline may be deemed by the Court to be a lack of objection to			
11 12	the relief requested in the Motion.			
13	Dated: November 17, 2023 THE BANKRUPTCY LAW FIRM, PC			
14	/s/ Kathleen P. March			
15	By: Kathleen P. March, Esq			
16	Attorneys for Greyson Law Center, PC			
17	on this Motion			
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MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF GREYSON LAW CENTER PC'S MOTION FOR ALLOWANCE AND PAYMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIM

The controlling law on Greyson Law Center PC's ("Greyson") Motion for Allowance and Payment of Administrative Claim, is both the US Supreme Court "fundamental fairness" doctrine, articulated in the US Supreme Court Reading Co. v. Brown case and in Brown's progeny, plus is 11 USC §503(b)(1)(A), interpreted in light of the US Supreme Court "fundamental fairness" doctrine.

I. THE US SUPREME COURT FUNDAMENTAL FAIRNESS RULE, ARTICULATED BY THE US SUPREME COURT, IN READING CO. v. BROWN, AND ITS PROGENY, APPLY HERE, TO REQUIRE GRANTING GREYSON'S MOTION FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIM AGAINST LPG'S BANKRUPTCY ESTATE, FOR DAMAGE NEGLIGENCE, AND ADDITIONAL WRONGFUL CONDUCT, OF TRUSTEE'S ATTORNEY CELENTINO, AND CELENTINO'S FIELD AGENTS, CAUSED TO GREYSON, INCLUDING CONVERSION OF GREYSON PROPERTY, AND UNFAIR COMPETITION

The US Supreme Court first articulated the **fundamental fairness rule**, in the US Supreme Court *Reading Co. v. Brown*, 391 U.S. 471, 88 S.Ct. 1759 (1968). In Reading, the US Supreme Court held that "damages resulting from the negligence of a receiver acting within the scope of his authority as receiver give rise to 'actual and necessary costs' of a Chapter XI arrangement." In Reading, the US Supreme held that tort damage, to victims of a fire caused by the Chapter 11 receiver's negligence, was

entitled to administrative expense priority, despite the fact that victims did not transact with the receiver, nor did the estate benefit from the event.

Today, it is accepted that the <u>fundamental fairness rule</u> holds that a trustee is liable for damage the trustee causes to a third party, in trustee's administration of a bankruptcy case.

Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals cases hold that this fundamental fairness doctrine survived into the Bankruptcy Code, in 11 USC §503 governing administrative claims, as an **exception** to Section 503's requirement that the bankruptcy estate must benefit from post-petition conduct, for an administrative claim to be allowed.

The <u>fundamental fairness rule</u> has been followed, and expanded, by Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals cases that cite *Reading Co. v. Brown*.

In re Florence Hospital at Anthem, LLC, 4:13-bk-03201-BMW, 2018 WL 1989470 at *9 (Bankr. D. Ariz. 4/26/18) cites three Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals cases—Kadjevich, Megafoods and Ybarra—where the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals recognizes that the US Supreme Court Reading case fundamental fairness rule survived from the Bankruptcy Act, into the present Bankruptcy Code, as an exception to the 11 USC §503(b)(1) requirement that for a party to be granted an administrative claim, the claim must have benefitted the bankruptcy estate. Plus, Florence Hospital, 2018 WL 1989470 at *9, states the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals not only follows, but has expanded, the US Supreme Court Reading case fundamental fairness rule:

"Basis for Administrative Expense Claims 1 In most cases, two requirements must be met under Ninth Circuit case law in 2 order to establish an actual and necessary administrative expense under § 3 501(b)(1)(A) of the Code: (1) "the claim must have arisen from a transaction with the debtor in possession[,]" and (2) the claim "must 4 directly and substantially benefit the estate." In re 800Ideas.com, Inc., 496 5 B.R. 165, 175 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2013). However, in *Reading Co. v. Brown*, the 6 U.S. Supreme Court carved out an exception to the traditional actual and 7 necessary requirements. 391 U.S. 471 (1968); see also In re Ybarra, 424 F.3d 1018, 1025 n.10 (9th Cir. 2005) (construing *Reading* as "determin[ing] that an 8 award of tort damages to victims of a fire caused by the Chapter 11 receiver's 9 negligence was entitled to administrative expense priority, despite the fact that 10 victims did not transact with the receiver, nor did the estate benefit from the event"). Although Reading was decided under the Bankruptcy Act, it 11 survived the enactment of the Bankruptcy Code and is recognized by the 12 Ninth Circuit. E.g. In re Kadjevich, 220 F.3d 1016, 1019 (9th Cir. 2000); In 13 re Megafoods Stores, Inc., 163 F.3d 1063, 1071 (9th Cir. 1998). Under the Reading exception, as expanded by the Ninth Circuit, a debtor-in-14 possession's violation of 28 U.S.C. § 959(b) can, under certain circumstances, 15 give rise to an administrative claim for damages. See In re Megafoods Stores, 16 Inc., 163 F.3d at 1072; In re 800Ideas.com, Inc, 496 B.R. at 177–78." 17 [bold/underline added for emphasis] 18 Florence Hospital, at *9 cites 28 USC §959(b), which requires a bankruptcy trustee or 19 receiver to: 20 21 "manage and operate the property in [its] possession ... according to the requirements of the valid laws of the State in which such property is situated, 22 in the same manner that the owner or possessor thereof would be bound to do if 23 in possession thereof." 24 25 The Ninth Circuit case, *In re Kadjevich*, 220 F.3d 1016, 1019 (9th Cir. 2000) states: 26 27 "In addition to those kinds of 'standard' administrative expenses, tort claims based on a trustee's post-petition negligence are granted administrative-28

expense priority. See Reading Co. v. Brown, 391 U.S. 471, 88 S.Ct. 1759, 20 L.Ed.2d 751 (1968). Such claims are deemed 'ordinarily incident to [the] operation of a business," id. at 483, 88 S.Ct. 1759, and are granted priority status so that the victims of a reorganizing business' torts will be compensated ahead of the creditors who sought reorganization." [bold/underline added for emphasis]

The Ninth Circuit case, In re Ybarra, 424 F.3d 1018, 1025 n.10 (9th Cir. 2005),

succinctly summarizing controlling law, at Footnote 10, as follows:

"10. The Supreme Court carved out an exception to this "post-petition transaction requirement" in *Reading v. Brown*, 391 U.S. 471, 88 S.Ct. 1759, 20 L.Ed.2d 751 (1968). *Abercrombie*, 139 F.3d at 758. There, the Court determined that an award of tort damages to victims of a fire caused by the Chapter 11 receiver's negligence was entitled to administrative expense priority, despite the fact that victims did not transact with the receiver, nor did the estate benefit from the event. *Reading*, 391 U.S. at 485, 88 S.Ct. 1759. In the interests of "fairness to all persons having claims against the insolvent," *id.* at 477, 88 S.Ct. 1759, the Court held that **tort claims arising post-petition were "actual and necessary expenses" of preserving the estate**. *Id.* at 482, 485, 88 S.Ct. 1759." [bold/underline added for emphasis]

The Ninth Circuit case *In re Megafoods Stores, Inc.*, 163 F.3d 1063, 1071 (9th Cir. 1998) states:

"In analyzing § 503 and interpreting what may constitute an administrative expense, the Supreme Court in *Reading Co. v. Brown*, 391 U.S. 471, 88 S.Ct. 1759, 20 L.Ed.2d 751 (1968), held that "damages resulting from the negligence of a receiver acting within the scope of his authority as receiver give rise to 'actual and necessary costs' of a Chapter XI arrangement." *Id.* at 485, 88 S.Ct. at 1767. Following this broader interpretation of § 503(b), the Ninth Circuit found that "the use of a form of the word 'include' is significant, and generally thought to imply that terms listed immediately afterwards are an inexhaustive list of examples, rather than a bounded set of applicable items." *In re Mark Anthony Constr., Inc.*, 886 F.2d 1101, 1106 (9th Cir.1989) (citations omitted). The opinion in *Reading* not only survived the later enactment of the Bankruptcy Code of 1978, but has been expanded by lower courts. *See Matter of Copeland*, 991 F.2d at 239 (citing to *Yorke v. NLRB*, 709 F.2d 1138, 1143 (7th Cir.1983) (holding that those

injured during the trustee's administration of an estate are entitled to an 1 administrative priority regardless of whether their injury was caused by a 2 tort or other wrongdoing) and In re Charlesbank Laundry, Inc., 755 F.2d 200, 202 (1st Cir.1985) (finding that damages to plaintiffs in the form of a civil 3 compensatory fine and attorney's fees resulting from a debtor's violation of an 4 injunction constitute an administrative claim)); see also In re Abercrombie, 139 F.3d 755, 758 (9th Cir.1998)." [bold/underline added for emphasis] 5 6 The *Reading* fundamental fairness rule applies here, to require granting the 7 \$300,633 portion of Greyson's herein Motion for allowance and payment of 8 9 administrative claim. (briefed at V. infra), 10 Regular 11 USC §503(b)(1)(A) analysis applies here, to require granting the 11 \$5,134,000 portion of Greyson's Motion for allowance and payment of administrative 12 13 claim, for Greyson performing essential post-petition work, pursuant to a post-14 petition contract, for Phoenix Law Center (the alter ego of debtor LPG), benefitting 15 Phoenix/LPG, done at a very reasonable price of \$2,000 per lawsuit. (briefed at VI. 16 17 infra. 18 19 20 II. 11 USC §503(b)(1)(A) HAS BEEN HELD TO BE BROAD ENOUGH 21 TO ALLOW AN ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIM, TO BE PAID BY THE 22 BANKRUPTCY ESTATE, FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY 23 WRONGFUL POST-PETITION CONDUCT OF CHAPTER 7 24 **BANKRUPTCY TRUSTEES** 25 Pursuant to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals cases cited in I., supra, the 26 "including" language of 11 USC §503(b)(1)(A) has been interpreted as being broad 27 enough to obligate bankruptcy estate to pay a non-debtor party for damage trustee's 28

generally thought to imply that terms listed immediately afterwards are an inexhaustive list of examples, rather than a bounded set of applicable items.' *In re Mark Anthony Constr., Inc.*, 886 F.2d 1101, 1106 (9th Cir. 1989)."

There are several reported cases where administrative expense claims have been made, in Chapter 7 cases, seeking allowance and payment of administrative expense claims for damage caused to the §503 applicant, by wrongful postpetition conduct (such as negligence) of Chapter 7 bankruptcy trustees, in Chapter 7 cases. E.g., *In re 800Ideas.com*, *Inc.*, 496 B.R. 165 (9th Cir. BAP 2013); *In re Metro Fulfillment, Inc.*, 294 B.R. 306, 309 (9th Cir. BAP 2003).

III. GREYSON WAS DEPRIVED OF ANY OPPORTUNITY TO OPPOSE
THE 5/26/23 LOCKOUT AND PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION
ORDER BEING GRANTED AGAINST GREYSON, BECAUSE
TRUSTEE'S ATTORNEYS CONCEALED FROM ALL
DEFENDANTS THAT TRUSTEE WAS SUING ALL DEFENDANTS,
AND CONCEALED TRUSTEE HAD MOVED FOR THE LOCKOUT
AND PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION ORDER BY SEALED MOTION,
WITH NO NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS

Exhibit D to Declaration of Kathleen P. March, Esq. hereto is a true and correct copy, downloaded from pacer, of the 5/26/23 lockout and preliminary injunction Order [dkt.13 in the adversary proceeding docket]. Trustee obtained that Order, Exhibit D, without giving Greyson any opportunity to oppose/defend: Trustee deprived Greyson from defending, because Trustee did not serve his adversary proceeding on Greyson or on any other defendant, until well after Trustee moved for

1	and obtained that Lockout and preliminary injunction order. (March Decl.) Exhibit		
2	$\underline{\mathbf{C}}$ to March Decl. is the adversary proceeding docket, and shows no defendants were		
3 4	served with the adversary proceeding complaint until well after Trustee moved for and		
5	obtained the 5/26/23 lockout and preliminary injunction order against many		
6	defendants, including Greyson.		
7 8	Trustee obtained that Order based on trustee's erroneous allegation that		
9	Greyson was an alter ego of debtor LPG. (March Decl. hereto).		
10	But Greyson was NOT an alter ego of debtor LPG. (Han Trinh Decl. hereto).		
11 12	Greyson was a competitor of LPG (Han Trinh Decl. hereto). Greyson being a		
13	competitor of LPG is the polar opposite of Greyson being an alter ego of LPG. (Han		
14	Trinh Decl. hereto).		
15	Trustee Marshack's attorney Celentino admitted, at the hearing held 6/12/23,		
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17	that <u>Greyson was NOT the alter ego of debtor LPG</u> . <u>Exhibit G</u> to Declaration of		
18 19	Kathleen P. March Esq. is the full 6/12/23 hearing transcript; see page 33 bottom to		
20	page 34 of the transcript, where Celentino admits that Greyson is not the alter ego of		
21	debtor LPG. The 5/26/23 Lockout and Preliminary Injunction Order is Exhibit D to		
22	March Decl. The adversary proceeding docket is Exhibit C to March Decl.		
2324	The Lockout and Preliminary Injunction Order may have been proper as to		
25	entities that were alter egos of debtor LPG. But the Lockout and Preliminary		
2627	Injunction Order was obtained by Trustee against Greyson, due to <u>negligent error by</u>		
28	Trustee as to Greyson, of Trustee alleging, in error, that Greyson was an alter ego of		

LPG, when Greyson was not an alter ego of LPG, but rather was a <u>competitor</u> of LPG, which was severely damaged by the Lockout order and preliminary injunction against Greyson, and by the <u>inexcusably negligent several months delay</u> of Trustee's attorneys in undoing the lockout of Greyson from Greyson's offices, and of undoing the seizure of Greyson's property, and locking Greyson out of Greyson's emails, LUNA client management system software, website domain, etc., things Trustee's attorney Celentino had done, damaging Greyson. (Han Trinh Decl.).

Han Trinh's Declaration hereto explains that on 6/2/23, Celentino and his field agents locked Han and Jayde Trinh, who were Greyson's head administrators, and other Greyson personnel, out of Greyson's offices, seizing Greyson's client files, which were Greyson's property.

In addition, on 6/2/23, <u>cut off Greyson's access to Greyson's client files and records</u>, <u>froze Greyson's bank accounts</u>, <u>froze Greyson from using its payment processors</u>, <u>froze Greyson's access to Greyson's email</u>, <u>froze Greyson out of its own website</u>, <u>and diverted Greyson's US mail</u>, <u>etc</u>. (Han Trinh Declaration hereto explains all these things that Trustee's attorneys/field agents did to Greyson).

As March's declaration attaches the adversary proceeding pacer docket as **Exhibit C**, and explains that the docket/pleadings Trustee filed, establishes that Trustee's attorneys **concealed** what they were doing from the many defendants (including Greyson) sued in Trustee's adversary proceeding, until well after Trustee obtained the 5/26/23 Lockout and Preliminary Injunction Order.

Trustee's concealment of Trustee's adversary proceeding, motion for Lockout 1 2 Order and preliminary injunction **deprived** Greyson and the other defendants from 3 being able to protect themselves by appearing and opposing Trustee's Motion for the 4 Lockout and Preliminary Injunction Motion. (March Declaration hereto). 5 6 The pacer docket shows Trustee Marshack filed his adversary proceeding on 7 5/25/23, and filed his Motion for lockout and preliminary injunction against 8 9 defendants (including Greyson) on that same day, 5/25/23. (pacer docket is **Exhibit C** 10 to March Decl.). Along with his Motion, Trustee filed a motion to seal his Motion 11 (motion to seal is Exhibit E to March Decl., saying in the Motion to seal that Trustee 12 didn't want defendant Diab to know what Trustee was doing. Obviously Trustee 13 14 didn't want any of the defendants, including Greyson, to know what Trustee was 15 doing, because none of them were served. The Bankruptcy Court granted Trustee's 16 17 Motion to seal (Order sealing Motion is **Exhibit F** to March Decl. hereto). 18 The "evidence" against Greyson, in Trustee's motion for Lockout and 19 Preliminary Injunction order was inadequate, mainly inadmissible hearsay. (March 20 21 Decl). As Trustee counsel Celentino later admitted, at the 6/12/23 Court hearing, 22 Greyson was NOT an alter ego of LPG. (Transcript is Exhibit G to March Decl). 23 But Greyson, not having be served with anything, had no opportunity to defend 24 25 itself, before the Court granted the Lockout and Preliminary Injunction Order as to 26 Greyson, on 5/26/23. (March Decl., Han Trinh Decl.). 27 28

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By proceeding with no notice to Greyson, Trustee assumed the risk that Greyson would be "collateral damage" in the Lockout and Preliminary Injunction Order. (March Decl.). The US Supreme Court *Reading Co* fundamental fairness doctrine requires the LPG bankruptcy estate to pay for the damage Trustee did to Greyson by proceeding with no notice to Greyson, and giving Greyson no opportunity to defend, and by obtaining the Lockout and Preliminary Injunction order against Greyson, by making the false allegation that Greyson was an alter ego of LPG, when Trustee thereafter, on 6/12/23 admitted Greyson was NOT an alter ego of LPG, and by taking two months to even partially undo the lockout and preliminary injunction as to Greyson, which Trustee should have undone, on 6/12/23. (March Decl, Han Trinh Decl). IV. THE NEGLIGENT (AND WORSE) CONDUCT OF TRUSTEE'S ATTORNEY CELENTINO, AND CELENTINO'S FIELD AGENTS,

DAMAGING GREYSON, ENTITLES GREYSON TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIM GREYSON HERE MOVES FOR

Negligence of a trustee (here by Trustee Marshack's attorney Christopher Celentino, and Celentino's field agents) that causes damage to a non-debtor Greyson, entitles Greyson to the administrative claim here moved for.

But here, there was more than just negligence, because Celentino's refusal and delay to return Greyson's client files, constituted conversion of Greyson's client files, and Celentino's refusal, from 6/13/23 to date this Motion if filed, to restore Greyson's access to Greyson's LUNA account, which was Greyson's client

relationship management software, which Greyson used to track and manage 1 2 Greyson's clients, is more than just negligent. 3 Greyson is a direct competitor of debtor LPG. (Han Trinh Declaration hereto). 4 Trustee Marshack was in charge of debtor LPG, and the conduct by Trustee's 5 6 Celentino and Celentino's field agents, damaging Greyson, is not just negligence. 7 That conduct constitutes unfair competition against Greyson—by LPG, a direct 8 competitor of Greyson. (Declaration of Kathleen P. March, Esq. hereto; 9 10 Declaration of Douglas Plazak, Esq. hereto). 11 Trustee's attorney Celentino was at fault from the start: Celentino, by Trustee's 12 Emergency Motion filed under seal, with no notice to Greyson or any other alleged 13 14 "alter ego" of debtor LPG, obtained the 5/26/23 Lockout and Preliminary Injunction 15 Order against Greyson, based on Trustee's declarants falsely alleging that Greyson 16 was an alter ego of debtor LPG; when Greyson was not an "alter ego" of LPG, but 17 18 instead was a direct competitor of LPG. (March Decl, per Trustee's Motion for 19 lockout and preliminary injunction against Greyson and other entities, Han Trinh 20 21 Declaration). 22 That lockout order and preliminary injunction was executed on Greyson by 23 Celentino and his field agents on 6/2/23, who locked Greyson's administrators (Han 24 25 and Jayde Trinh), and other Greyson personnel, out of Greyson's offices, and who 26 seized Greyson's client files, which were Greyson's property. (Han Trinh Declaration 27 hereto) In addition, on 6/2/23, Celentino/his field agents froze Greyson's bank 28

1	account, froze Greyson's payment processing account (which processed payments
2	from Greyson's clients), froze Greyson out of Greyson's email accounts, froze
3 4	Greyson out of Greyson's website domain. (Han Trinh Decl. hereto). The things
5	Celentino and the field agents did almost completely shut down Greyson. (Han Trinh
6	Decl. hereto).
7 8	Then, at the Court hearing held 6/12/23, Trustee's attorney Celentino admitted
9	Greyson was <u>not</u> an alter ego of LPG. (March Esq., Decl. attaching, as <u>Exhibit G</u> ,
10	the relevant pages of 6/12/23 court transcript; Douglas Plazak, Esq. Declaration).
11 12	But even though Trustee's attorney admitted, on 6/12/23, that Greyson was not
13	an alter ego of LPG, Celentino/field agents NEVER, to present, returned to
14	Greyson, access to Greyson's own emails, which Trustee had locked Greyson out of,
1516	on 6/2/23. (Han Trinh Decl). When Han asked Celentino to let Greyson access
17	Greyson's own emails, Celentino told Han that Greyson would have to buy its emails
18	from Celentino, if Greyson wanted to get those emails back.
19 20	Because Celentino only obtained the lockout and preliminary injunction order
21	against Greyson, by the FALSE allegations that Greyson was an alter ego of Greyson,
22 23	Celentino had a duty to release the items he had frozen, promptly, after the 6/12/23
24	hearing, but did not do so. (Han Trinh Decl.).
25	But instead of taking steps to undo the—obtained on false allegations Lockout
26	and Preliminary Injunction Order as to Greyson on 6/13/23, after the 6/12/23
2728	hearing, Celentino/his field agents increased the damage to Greyson, by seizing

hereto) immediately requesting Celentino to restore Greyson's access to Greyson's LUNA software/client data base, Celentino/his field agents have NEVER, to present, restored Greyson's access to Greyson's LUNA software /client data base. (Plazak Decl., Han Trinh Decl.).

Decl., Han Trinh Decl.)

Celentino did not allow Greyson to access Greyson's LUNA account until 7/7/23 (Han Decl.). But from when Celentino seized Greyson's LUNA account, and locked Greyson out of it, on 6/12/23, until 7/7/23, Celentino and his field agents were able to access Greyson's complete client data base, while preventing Greyson from accessing Greyson's client base. (Han Trinh Decl.). That conduct by Celentino and his field agents is negligent, but it is more than negligent, it is **conversion** of Greyson assets, and is **unfair competition** by debtor LPG, against Greyson, a direct competitor of LPG. Giving LPG access to Greyson's client base, while keeping Greyson locked out of Greyson's emails and LUNA account, made it impossible for Greyson to compete with LPG, which was being run by Celentino, as the alter ego of LPG. (Han Trinh Decl.; March Decl.).

Negligence, without more, entitles Greyson to be granted allowance, and payment, of Greyson's \$300,633 administrative claim here moved for, to be paid by the LPG bankruptcy estate, as here moved for.

Greyson's \$5,134,000 administrative expense claim, here moved for, is for post-petition services, i.e., services Greyson attorneys performed for LPG's alter ego, Phoenix, per contract between Phoenix and Greyson, that was entered into and performed <u>after</u> 3/20/23, the date on which LPG filed bankruptcy, performed at reasonable cost, benefitting Phoenix/LPG. (Han Trinh Decl.) That part of Greyson's claim is a standard 11 USC 503(b)(1)(A) claim.

Granting the lockout order and preliminary injunction against entities (Phoenix Law Group, Consumer Law Group) that actually were alter egos of LPG, protected the LPG bankruptcy estate. But as Greyson was NOT an alter ego of LPG. (Han Decl, Celentino admission at 6/12/23 hearing).

It was <u>negligent</u> of Trustee's attorney, Celentino, to obtain the 5/26/23 lockout order and preliminary injunction against Greyson, based on the <u>false allegation</u> that Greyson was an alter ego of LPPG. (March Decl.). I was <u>further negligence</u> that Celentino/his field agents, to <u>failed to promptly take steps to undo the damage</u> the lockout order and preliminary injunction were causing to Greyson. (March Decl., Plazak Decl.). It was intentional misconduct that Celentino seized and locked Greyson out of Greyson's LUNA account and data base, which Greyson and Greyson attorneys used to service Greyson's clients, by Celentino—<u>after</u> the 6/12/23 hearing

allegation that Greyson was an alter ego of LPG. (March Decl.)

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V. GREYSON IS OWED AN ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIM OF \$300,633,
FOR THE 22 OF 48 GRESYON CLIENTS GREYSON LOST, DUE TO
NEGLIGENCE OF CELENTINO/HIS FIELD AGENTS, OF
SEIZING/CONVERTING 48 GREYSON CLIENT FILES (WHICH
WERE GREYSON PROPERTY), AND THEN DELAYING, FOR A
MONTH, RETURNING GREYSON'S CLIENT FILES TO GREYSON

The Court should grant Greyson a \$300,633 administrative claim, representing the fees Greyson, lost because Greyson lost 22 of 48 Greyson clients, due to attorney Celentino's field agents seizing 48 Greyson client files—which were Greyson property—from Greyson's offices, on 6/2/23, when they locked Greyson out of Greyson's offices, and then delaying a full month, despite demand for return, before returning Greyson's 48 client files to Greyson. (Han Trinh Decl. hereto, which explains how the \$300,633 figure is calculated; Plazak Decl. hereto, that he requested files be returned immediately). Celentino's field agents seizing, and holding Greyson's 48 client files for a month, was negligent, and constituted conversion of Greyson's property, and unfair competition against Greyson. (Han Trinh Decl. hereto).

Celentino's field agents seizing the 48 Greyson client files, and refusing to return them for a month, despite Greyson's request that Greyson's files be returned to Greyson, caused Greyson to lose 22 of those clients, because Greyson was prevented for that month, from contacting the 48 Greyson clients, both because

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which is the \$300,633 Celentino's improper conduct caused Greyson to lose, mainly to Phoenix (the alter ego of LPG, which Celentino is running). **Exhibit II** (double i) to Han's Declaration lists the 24 low fee clients that Phoenix did not take. Obviously Celentino gave Phoenix access to the 48 Greyson client files, during Celentino's month long delay in returning Greyson's 48 client files to Greyson, and Phoenix took the 22 high fee clients, during the month-long period in which Celentino's actions prevented the clients from contacting Greyson, and preventing Greyson from contacting the clients, making it easy for Phoenix to take Greyson's "high fee" clients. (March Decl., Han Decl.)

POST-PETITION (AFTER LPG FILED BANKRUPTCY ON 3/20/23), VI. PHOENIX LAW GROUP—WHICH CELENTINO TOOK OVER AND

OPERATES, AS BEING AN "ALTER EGO" OF LPG--CONTRACTED WITH GREYSON, TO PAY GREYSON \$2,000 PER LAWSUIT, TO HAVE GREYSON LAWYERS DEFEND PHOENIX CLIENTS, FOR PHOENIX; THE \$2,000 PER CASE FEES TOTAL \$5,134,000, WHICH PHOENIX OWES TO GREYSON, BUT WHICH CELENTINO HAS WRONGFULLY REFUSED TO PAY TO GREYSON

Greyson is entitled to be granted an administrative claim of §5,134,000, for the \$2,000 per case which Phoenix Law Center ("Phoenix")—an alter ego of LPG being run by Celentino—contracted to pay to Greyson, to utilize Greyson attorneys to defend Phoenix consumer debtor clients in lawsuits, but which Celentino has not allowed Phoenix to pay ANY amount of. (Han Trinh Decl. hereto).

Greyson was not incorporated with the California Secretary of State until 5/12/23 (CA corporation no. 5714736, see printout from CA Secretary of State, which is **Exhibit H** to March Decl. hereto). LPG filed its bankruptcy case on 3/2023. Consequently, all activities of Greyson are after LPG filed its bankruptcy case, i.e., are "**post-petition**" activities. Greyson and Phoenix signed a written contract for the \$2,000 per case Phoenix was to pay Greyson. (Han Decl. hereto). However, in the 6/2/23 lockout, Celentino/his field agents seized Han's computer, and seized managing attorney Scott Eadie's computer, and seized all the other computers at Greyson, and have never returned those computers (or the cloud storage of those computers) to Greyson/Han/Eadie. (Han Decl. hereto). Celentino and his field agents have access to the data on all the seized computers, as Celentino demanded that

and so contracted with Greyson, to pay Greyson \$2,000 per lawsuit, to use Greyson attorneys to represent Phoenix consumer debtor clients, in lawsuits filed against those Phoenix clients. (Han Trinh Decl. hereto) \$2,000 per case was a very reasonable price. (Han Trinh Decl.).

But when Greyson requested Phoenix to pay Greyson the \$2,000 per case contracted for price, owed by Phoenix to Greyson for Greyson's post-petition

work for Phoenix, per the post-petition Phoenix-Greyson contract, Celentino—

who had taken over running Phoenix (as an alter ego of debtor LPG)—refused to pay Greyson the contracted for \$2,000 per lawsuit price, owed to Greyson by Phoenix, pursuant to Phoenix' contract to pay Greyson \$2,000 per lawsuit, to have Greyson attorneys defend Phoenix consumer debtor clients in lawsuits.

To date, Phoenix has paid ZERO to Greyson, because Celentino has not permitted Phoenix to pay Greyson for <u>any</u> of the work done by Greyson attorneys, which Phoenix contracted to pay Greyson for. (Han Trinh Decl.). Greyson needed those payments, per contract, so that Greyson could pay the Greyson W-2 attorneys. (Han Trinh Decl.) Phoenix has paid Greyson ZERO to date, of the \$5,134,000

LPG bankruptcy estate owe Greyson that \$5,134,000. (March Decl.).

Phoenix owes Greyson. (Han Trinh Decl.). Because Phoenix is LPG's alter ego, the

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The \$5,134,000 is calculated as follows:

- 1. Greyson's Texas and Oklahoma attorney worked, post-petition, on approximately 1,500 lawsuits for Phoenix Law Group, pursuant to Greyson's contract with Phoenix Law Group. $1,500 \times \$2,000 = \$3,000,000$.
- 2. One of Greyson's California attorneys worked post-petition, on approximately 140 lawsuits for Phoenix Law Group, pursuant to Greyson's contract with Phoenix Law Group. $140 \times \$2,000 = \$280,000$.
- 3. Greyson's Louisiana attorney worked post-petition, on approximately 375 lawsuits for Phoenix Law Group, pursuant to Greyson's contract with Phoenix Law Group.. $375 \times \$2,000 = \$750,000$.
- 4. Greyson's Florida attorney worked post-petition, on approximately 250 lawsuits for Phoenix Law Group, pursuant to Greyson's contract with Phoenix Law Group. $250 \times \$2,000 = \$500,000$.
- 5. Greyson's Nevada and Arizona attorney worked post-petition on approximately 20 lawsuits at the time, for Phoenix Law Group, pursuant to Greyson's contract with Phoenix Law Group. $20 \times \$2,000 = \$40,000$.
- 6. Greyson's West Virgina attorney worked post-petition on approximately 30 lawsuits for Phoenix Law Group pursuant to Greyson's contract with Phoenix Law Group. $30 \times \$2,000 = \$60,000$.

- 7. Greyson's Illinois, Iowa, and Arkansas attorney worked post-petition on approximately 150 lawsuits for Phoenix Law Group, pursuant to Greyson's contract with Phoenix Law Group. $150 \times \$2,000 = \$300,000$.
- 8. Greyson's Managing Attorney, Scott Eadie, worked post-petition on approximately 102 lawsuits for Phoenix Law Group, pursuant to Greyson's contract with Phoenix Law Group. $102 \times \$2,000 = \$204,000$. [as itemized in Han Trinh Decl. hereto]

Just for these attorneys' work alone, Greyson is owed <u>\$5,134,000</u> by Phoenix Law Group—which Celentino had taken over running as being an alter ego of debtor LPG. (Han Trinh Decl.). Celentino has <u>refused</u>, <u>wrongfully</u>, to pay Greyson the contracted for \$2,000 per lawsuit, for <u>any</u> of the lawsuits where Greyson attorneys been hired to litigate the suits for Phoenix Law Center, for \$2,000 per lawsuit to be paid to Greyson by Phoenix Law Center. (Han Trinh Decl. hereto).

Celentino demanded that each Greyson attorney email Celentino a list of all the clients/lawsuits each Greyson attorney was working on for Phoenix, for the \$2,000 per case fee to be paid by Phoenix to Greyson. Greyson could not send those lists, because Trustee field agents locked Greyson and Greyson's W-2 attorney employees out of Greyson's data bases and emails, including locking Greyson/its attorneys out of Greyson's LUNA account, as explained supra. Plus, Celentino and Trustee's filed agents have never allowed Greyson or Greyson's attorneys, to access Greyson's

emails, after Celentino and the filed agents locket those emails, despite multiple demands for access. (Han Trinh Decl. hereto)

Because Phoenix is the alter ego of LPG, and therefore is the same as LPG, this Court should grant Greyson an administrative claim against the LPG's bankruptcy estate, for a minimum of \$5,134,000, which is the \$2,000 per lawsuit, which Phoenix contracted with Greyson to pay Greyson, to have Greyson attorneys defend Phoenix consumer debtor clients in lawsuits. Han Trinh's Declaration hereto itemizes the representation, at \$2,000 per suit, which adds to \$5,134,000.

The contract between Greyson and Phoenix was after 3/20/23, the date LPG filed bankruptcy, i.e., is a post-petition contract and work. As Greyson was not incorporated until 5/12/23, there can be no issue about that. Phoenix, which either had no or few lawyers, to appear in lawsuits to defend Phoenix consumer client defendants, contracted with Greyson to have Greyson's attorneys perform that work for Phoenix.

Greyson's work for Phoenix is a classic 11 USC §503(b)(1)(A) claim: post-petition contract and work which was essential for Phoenix/LPG to carry on its business, thereby benefitting Phoenix/LPG, done for a reasonable price (\$2,000 per lawsuit). Greyson is entitled to be granted allowance and payment, by the LPG bankruptcy estate of a **\$5,134,000** (minimum) administrative claim.

VII. CONCLUSION

Pursuant to the US Supreme Court *Reading Co* case <u>fundamental fairness</u>

<u>rule</u>, and pursuant to 11 USC §503(b)(1)(A), this Court should grant Greyson Law

Center PC's Motion for Allowance and Payment of Administrative Claim against the

LPG bankruptcy estate for <u>\$300,633</u> to be paid to Greyson by debtor LPG's

bankruptcy estate. That <u>\$300,633</u> administrative claim to Greyson, representing fees

Greyson lost because Celentino's negligent (and worse) conduct caused Greyson to

lose Greyson's 22 "high fees" clients, out of 48 clients, due to Celentino's month-long

delay in returning Greyson's 48 client files to Greyson, which were Greyson's

property, but which the field agents had seized from Greyson's offices during the

6/2/23 lockout of Greyson from Greyson's offices, and refused to return to Greyson

for a full month.

During that month Celentino—who was in control of Phoenix, as being LPG's alter ego—obviously gave Phoenix access to Greyson's 48 client files, because during the month where Celentino's conduct prevented Greyson from communicating with Greyson's 48 clients, Phoenix contracted with the 22 high fee clients (which would have paid Greyson \$300,633 in fees), leaving only the low fee clients at Greyson. (All attested to in Han Trinh Declaration). Celentino's conduct was negligent. But his conduct was not only negligent, that conduct was conversion of Greyson's property, and was unfair competition by debtor LPG, against Greyson, a direct competitor of LPG.

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PROOF OF SERVICE OF DOCUMENT

I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding. My business address is: 10524 W. Pico Blvd., Ste. 212, Los Angeles, CA 90064

A true and correct copy of the foregoing document entitled (*specify*): NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION OF GREYSON LAW GROUP PC, FOR AN ORDER GRANTING ALLOWANCE AND PAYMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIM, PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C. §503(b)(1)(A); DECLARATIONS OF HAN TRINH, KATHLEEN P. MARCH, ESQ. AND DOUGLAS PLAZAK, ESQ., EACH WITH EXHIBITS will be served or was served (a) on the judge in chambers in the form and manner required by LBR 5005-2(d); and (b) in the manner stated below:

4 TO DE SERVE	ED BY THE COURT VIA MOTICE OF I	ELECTRONIC FILING (NEF): Pursuant to controlling General
Orders and LBR, t	the foregoing document will be served I checked the CM/ECF docket for this I	by the court via NEF and hyperlink to the document. On (<i>date</i>) cankruptcy case or adversary proceeding and determined that the
following persons	are on the Electronic Mail Notice List t	o receive NEF transmission at the email addresses stated below:
See next page		
		⊠ Service information continued on attached page
On (date)11/1 case or adversary first class, postage	proceeding by placing a true and corr	ns and/or entities at the last known addresses in this bankruptcy ect copy thereof in a sealed envelope in the United States mail, isting the judge here constitutes a declaration that mailing to the document is filed.
The Litigation Pra- 17542 17th St Suite 100	ctice Group P.C.	
Tustin, CA 92780		☐ Service information continued on attached page
for each person of the following person such service meth	rentity served): Pursuant to F.R.Civ.Pons and/or entities by personal delivery and), by facsimile transmission and/or e	MAIL, FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION OR EMAIL (state method 5.5 and/or controlling LBR, on (date)11/17/23, I served y, overnight mail service, or (for those who consented in writing to email as follows. Listing the judge here constitutes a declaration will be completed no later than 24 hours after the document is
Hon. Scott Clarks United States Ban 411 West Fourth S Santa Ana, CA 92	kruptcy Court Street, Suite 5130	
Jama / Ilia, O/ Co		☐ Service information continued on attached page
I declare under pe	enalty of perjury under the laws of the l	United States that the foregoing is true and correct.
11/17/23	Kathleen P. March	/s/ Kathleen P. March
Date	Printed Name	Signature

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